

**IN THE UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE
WESTERN DISTRICT OF MISSOURI
SOUTHERN DIVISION**

TRAVIS DUNCAN,)	
)	
Plaintiff,)	
v.)	No. 17-03404-CV-S-BP
)	
BLACKBIRD PRODUCTS GROUP, LLC,)	
)	
Defendant.)	

AMENDED SCHEDULING AND TRIAL ORDER

Pursuant to Rules 16(b) and 26(f) of the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure, and upon consideration of the parties' views in the matter, the following schedule is hereby established:

1. TRIAL SETTING. This case is scheduled for a jury trial, commencing at 8:30 a.m., on March 1, 2021, at the United States District Courthouse in Springfield, Missouri.
2. PRETRIAL CONFERENCE. A final pretrial conference in this case will be held at 1:30 p.m., on February 19, 2021, by teleconference. Parties shall call in by dialing (877) 336-1839 and enter access code 4259420.
3. DISCOVERY DEADLINE. All pretrial discovery authorized by the Federal Rules of Civil Procedure shall be completed on or before October 1, 2020. This means that all discovery shall be completed, not simply submitted, on the date specified by this paragraph.

The Court will not entertain any discovery motion absent full compliance with Local Rule 37.1. In the event that a teleconference is needed, email your request to my judicial assistant at annette_cordell@mow.uscourts.gov. A memorandum of the discovery dispute, not to exceed one page in length, should be electronically submitted by each party no later than forty-eight hours prior to the teleconference.

Prior to bringing any discovery dispute before the Court, the parties are reminded to consult the Principles for the Discovery of Electronically Stored Information available on the Court's website under "Local Rules, ESI Principles, Procedures & Fees."

4. **EXPERT DESIGNATION DEADLINES.** The parties shall designate any expert witnesses they intend to call at trial on or before October 15, 2020. Rebuttal experts shall be designated by November 1, 2020. This paragraph applies to all witnesses retained or non-retained from whom expert opinions will be elicited at trial.

Along with each party's designation of expert witnesses, each party shall provide the other parties with a report, pursuant to Rule 26(a)(2)(B), Fed. R. Civ. P., from each expert witness designated. Expert witnesses may testify only as to matters contained in the report described above unless leave of Court is granted upon good cause shown.

5. **DISPOSITIVE MOTION DEADLINE.** All dispositive motions, except those under Rule 12(h)(2) or (3), shall be filed on or before November 16, 2020. All dispositive motions shall have a separate section wherein each statement of fact is individually numbered so that any party opposing such motion may refer specifically to a genuine issue of material fact. Suggestions in opposition to a dispositive motion shall begin with a concise listing of material facts as to which the party contends a genuine dispute exists. All motions for summary judgment shall comply with Local Rules 7.0 and 56.1.

6. **PRETRIAL CONFERENCE DOCUMENT DEADLINES.** The documents listed below shall be filed prior to the pretrial conference.

- a. Motions in Limine. Motions in limine shall be filed at least ten (10) days prior to the pretrial conference. Responses to motions in limine shall be filed at least three (3) days prior to the pretrial conference.
- b. Stipulation of Uncontroverted Facts. At least three (3) days prior to the date the pretrial conference is to be held, the parties shall file a stipulation

of any uncontroverted facts. If no stipulated facts can be agreed upon, including facts related to the Court's subject matter jurisdiction, the parties shall file a joint statement to that effect.

- c. Witness List. At least five (5) days prior to the date the pretrial conference is to be held, each party shall file and serve a list of all witnesses who may be called to testify at trial. If a witness is not listed by a party, that witness will not be permitted to testify absent leave of Court and then only for the purpose of unanticipated rebuttal or impeachment.
- d. Exhibit List. At least five (5) days prior to the date the pretrial conference is to be held, each party will file and serve a list of all exhibits which may be offered at trial. If an exhibit is not listed by a party, that exhibit will not be admitted absent leave of Court.
- e. Stipulation as to the Admissibility of Evidence. At least three (3) days before the pretrial conference, the parties shall file a stipulation as to the admissibility of evidence, when the identification and foundation of the exhibit is not to be contested.
- f. Designation of Deposition Testimony. Fifteen (15) days before pretrial conference, each party shall file and serve a designation, by page and line number, of any deposition testimony to be offered in evidence by that party.
- g. Objections to Designated Deposition Testimony and Counter Designation. At least ten (10) days prior to the pretrial conference, each party shall file and serve:
 - 1. Any objections to proposed deposition testimony designated by any other party; and
 - 2. A designation, by page and line number, of any deposition testimony to be offered as counter-designation to deposition testimony designated by other parties.
- h. Submission of Deposition Designations. Seven (7) days prior to the pretrial conference, each party shall file, serve, and deliver to all other parties and the Court, its objections to any deposition testimony designated pursuant to subparagraphs g. 1. and 2. above.

The Court should receive deposition designations in the following manner:

- 1. The parties are to jointly submit one copy of each designated deposition.

2. Each party is to highlight the portion of the deposition they want to designate, including counter-designations.
 3. Each party should use a different highlight color to indicate their designations (for example, plaintiff uses yellow; defendant uses blue).
 4. Each party should also indicate their objections on the actual deposition by bracketing those portions in the margin of the deposition, again using a different color to indicate the portion to which each party objects.
 5. Each party should submit to the Court a Word version document of the Objections to Deposition Designations that you filed in CM/ECF. Send that via email to my judicial assistant at annette_cordell@mow.uscourts.gov.
- i. Jury Instructions. Three (3) days prior to the pretrial conference, the parties shall jointly file an annotated (with sources) set of proposed jury instructions. Proposed instructions shall reflect the authorities upon which the instruction is based and should be taken from or drawn in the manner of *Model Civil Jury Instructions for the District of Courts of the Eighth Circuit* and/or *Missouri Approved Instructions* (MAI) where available and appropriate. All instructions shall be designated as Instruction No. ____.
- The Court prefers to receive joint instructions from the parties. Separate instructions are appropriate only when the parties cannot agree upon a specific instruction. In that instance, the parties shall jointly submit the instructions upon which they agree. Each party shall submit its proposed version of the instructions upon which the parties do not agree, along with a written objection to the other party's version.
- The instructions should also be submitted to the Court electronically, in a Word document. Send the instructions via email to my judicial assistant at annette_cordell@mow.uscourts.gov.
- j. Trial Brief. At least five (5) days prior to the pretrial conference, counsel for each party may file a trial brief stating the factual and legal contentions in the case.
- k. Voir Dire Questions. At least five (5) days prior to the pretrial conference, counsel for each party shall file a list of questions or topics for voir dire. Objections to opposing party's voir dire questions shall be filed at least three (3) days prior to the pretrial conference.

At the pretrial conference, the Court will discuss the manner in which voir dire will be conducted. In appropriate cases, the court will permit counsel for the parties to conduct questioning of the panel members. However, questions will be limited to those filed with the court, and the court will limit the amount of time each party will be permitted to conduct questioning.

7. SETTLEMENT DEADLINE. Unless otherwise ordered, the court hereby imposes a settlement deadline of 12:00 Noon on the business day before trial. If the case is settled after that date, the court may enter an order to show cause why certain costs should not be imposed on the party or parties causing the delay in settlement.

IT IS SO ORDERED.

/s/ Beth Phillips
BETH PHILLIPS, JUDGE
UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT

DATE: July 31, 2020